

AFRICA

RESOURCE CENTER

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Minutes of the "Southern Africa Forum" held at the Africa Resource Center on May 20, 1983.

Attending: Walter, Africa Resource Center; Miloanne, \$top Banking on Apartheid; Rosemarie, \$top Banking on Apartheid; Ted, Oakland Public Schools; Jacqueline, Stanford; Moisiqa, Stanford African Students; Karen, South African War Resisters; Phil, Vanguard Foundation; Wilson Riles, Oakland; \_\_\_\_\_, Stanford; Victor, Africa Resource Center.

The meeting began with introductions and discussions of current levels of organization and organizational priorities. Representatives discussed specific events which they had previously participated with and the community impact of these events. Phil Hutchins noted the 'slowness' of African solidarity work as evidenced by the minimal community participation in Africa Liberation Day.

Jacqueline Howard of Stanford pointed out the need to be involved in media information, material aid and support of the cultural boycott. There was also noted the major conference which will be held in Berkeley in October as a follow-up to the major New York conference which focused on South Africa and Namibia.

Miloanne spoke of the divestment campaign and its effectiveness. The pressing need to make divestment and U.S./South Africa policy part of any local or national election campaigns. The representative of SAMRAF, Karen, spoke briefly on the war resisters of South Africa and the current work of SAMRAF.

The key questions revolved around what should be the priorities of current Southern Africa work. The forum raised the following key areas:

- Media work/influence
- Material aid
- Network: evolving from the forum that would provide contact lists.

Material aid was the most discussed with the attached notion of how to better/more effectively involve the community in awareness about and action in Southern Africa concerns.

The Africa Resource Center took responsibility for preparing minutes and serving as the site for the next forum. Jacqueling Howard agreed to 'chair' a 'committee' that would look into a fall benefit for raising material aid. The forum also set its next meeting - July 16 - to discuss in depth the cultural boycott and ascertain methods to increase its effectiveness.